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## Microsoft Reaches Private Antitrust Settlement

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This settlement is a charade. It makes no sense, is just a Microsoft pay off and it is horrible for competition and consumer choice.

It's as though a cigarette companies punishment is to supply schools with free Cigarettes.

I'm sure Apple Computer and network hardware and software companies for example, will find the settlement unsettling to say the least. How can they compete in their main market place when a company is given a key to the facility and a green light to wire and network the district with their proprietary equipment and software.

It's a hard place to be in for the schools who see Microsoft waving one billion dollars in front of their face. It's blinding. Who can argue the benefits of technology to our youth and cost reduction to our schools.

However, I estimate this one billion investment will pay off handsomely and be a windfall for Microsoft and its products entrenchment in those very same schools within the near future.

One billion dollars is the same amount of money that Microsoft is spending on Advertisement alone for Windows XP. I think this is also roughly the amount that the company plans on loosing on the Xbox this year in-order to solidify a market presence.

This One billion to the schools, like the XP marketing blitz and Xbox expenditures, solidifies a presence in a market for Microsoft.

This is a strangle hold on those very schools which will now be completely dependent on Microsoft.

The Ironic thing is that if Microsoft was to offer a billion dollars to set up schools with their equipment it would not be allowed because it would be anti-competitive.

You can not punish a company that has 41 billion plus in cash in the bank by giving them whole markets for pennies on the dollar and call it a Monopoly remedy.

You got to love the Genius behind Microsoft. They pulled another fast one on US, the public.

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